Amendments to the Claims

1-21. (canceled)

22. (re-presented - formerly dependent claim # 24 and amended) A tablet adapted for direct oral administration across the oral mucosa comprising:

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a) a pharmaceutically effective amount of a medicament capable of buccal, sublingual and gingival administration; ~~and~~

b) at least one pH adjusting substance; and

c) at least one saliva activated effervescent couple present in an amount which is greater than the amount necessary for tablet disintegration and which is sufficient to increase ~~either the rate of the extent of~~ absorption of said medicament across the oral mucosa, and wherein said amount of said at least one effervescent couple is between about 5% by weight and about 80% by weight.

23. (previously amended) The tablet of claim 22, wherein said effervescent couple present in an amount between about 20% by weight and about 80% by weight.

24. (canceled)

25. (previously amended) The tablet of claim 22, further comprising a bioadhesive, wherein said bioadhesive increases the contact time between said tablet and the oral mucosa.

26. (previously amended) The tablet of claim 22, further comprising a non-effervescent disintegration agent.

27. (previously amended) The tablet of claim 22, further comprising glidants, lubricants, binders, sweeteners, flavoring and coloring components.

28. (previously amended) The tablet of claim 22, wherein said medicament is selected from the group consisting of analgesics, anti-inflammatories, antipyretics, antibiotics, antimicrobials, laxatives, anorexics, antihistamines, antiasthmatics, antidiuretics, antiflatuents, anti-emetics,

antimigraine agents, antispasmodics, sedatives, antihypertensives, tranquilizers, decongestants, and beta blockers.

29. (previously amended) The tablet of claim 22, wherein said medicament is selected from the group consisting of peptides, proteins and oligonucleotides.

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30. (currently amended) A tablet adapted for direct oral administration across the oral mucosa comprising:

a) a pharmaceutically effective amount of an orally administerable medicament capable of existing in an ionized form and a unionized form in the mouth;

b) at least one saliva activated effervescent couple present in an amount which is greater than the amount necessary for tablet disintegration and which is sufficient to increase ~~either the rate of the extent of~~ absorption of said medicament across the oral mucosa; and

c) at least one pH-adjusting substance present in an amount which is sufficient to change the pH of a local environment of said dosage form at a site of absorption in the mouth to favor said unionized form of said medicament.

31. (previously amended) The tablet of claim 30, further comprising at least one glidant, lubricant, binder, sweetener, flavor, non-effervescent disintegration agent or color.

32. (previously added) The solid pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 30, further comprising a bioadhesive, wherein said bioadhesive increases the contact time between said dosage form and the oral mucosa.

33. (currently amended) The tablet of claim 30, comprising a non-effervescent disintegration agent selected from the group consisting of microcrystalline cellulose, croscarmellose sodium, crospovidone, corn starch, potato starch, modified corn starch, modified potato starch, bentonite,

alginates, agar, guar, locust bean, karaya, ~~pecitin~~ pectin and tragacanth.~~.~~

34. (previously added) The solid pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 30, wherein said orally administerable medicament is selected from the group consisting of analgesics, anti-inflammatories, antipyretics, antibiotics, antimicrobials, laxatives, anorexics, antihistamines, antiasthmatics, antidiuretics, antiflatuents, anti-emetics, antimigraine agents, antispasmodics, sedatives, antihyperactives, antihypertensives, tranquilizers, decongestants, and beta blockers.

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35. (previously added) The solid pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 30, wherein said orally administerable medicament is selected from the group consisting of peptides, proteins and oligonucleotides.

36. (previously amended) The tablet of claim 30, wherein said at least one saliva activated effervescent couple is present in an amount between about 20% by weight and 80% by weight.

37-82. (canceled)

83. (currently amended) The tablet of claim ~~24~~22, wherein said at least one pH-adjusting substance is present in an amount which is sufficient to change the pH of a local environment of said tablet at a site of absorption in the mouth to favor an unionized form of said medicament.

84. (previously added) The tablet of claim 30, wherein said at least one saliva activated effervescent couple is present in an amount between about 5% by weight and 80% by weight

85. (previously added) The tablet of claim 30, wherein said pH adjusting substance is a base.

86. (previously added) The tablet of claim 85, wherein said base is selected from the group consisting of sodium

carbonate, potassium carbonate, magnesium carbonate, disodium hydrogen phosphate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate, dipotassium hydrogen phosphate, and potassium dihydrogen phosphate.

87. (previously added) The tablet of claim 30, wherein said pH adjusting substance is an acid.

88. (new) The tablet of claim 22 wherein said at least one pH-adjusting substance is present in an amount which is sufficient to change the pH of a local environment of said medicament at a site of absorption in the mouth.

89. (new) The tablet of claim 88, wherein said at least one pH-adjusting substance is present in an amount which is sufficient to change the pH of a local environment of said medicament at a site of absorption in the mouth to favor an unionized form of said medicament.

90. (new) The tablet of claim 88, wherein said at least one pH-adjusting substance is present in an amount which is sufficient to change the pH of a local environment of said medicament at a site of absorption in the mouth to favor an ionized form of said medicament.

91. (new) The tablet of claim 22 which is adapted for buccal administration.

92. (new) The tablet of claim 22 which is adapted for buccal administration.

93. (new) The tablet of claim 22 which is adapted for gingival administration.

94. (new) The tablet of claim 22 which is adapted for sublingual administration.

95. (new) The tablet of claim 22, wherein said medicament is fentanyl or its pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

96. (new) The tablet of claim 22, wherein said medicament is prochlorperazine.

97. (new) A tablet adapted for direct oral administration across the oral mucosa comprising:

a) a pharmaceutically effective amount of an orally administerable medicament capable of existing in an ionized form and a unionized form in the mouth;

b) at least one saliva activated effervescent couple present in an amount which is greater than the amount necessary for tablet disintegration and which is sufficient to increase absorption of said medicament across the oral mucosa; and

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c) at least one pH-adjusting substance present in an amount which is sufficient to change the pH of a local environment of said dosage form at a site of absorption in the mouth to favor said ionized form of said medicament.

98. (new) A tablet adapted for direct oral administration across the oral mucosa comprising:

a) a pharmaceutically effective amount of an orally administrable, systemically distributable medicament;

b) at least one saliva activated effervescent couple; and

c) at least one non-effervescent oral mucosa penetration enhancer.

99. (new) The tablet of claim 98, further comprising at least one pH-adjusting substance.

100. (new) The tablet of claim 98, wherein the amount of said at least one effervescent couple is about 5% to about 95% by weight of the tablet.

101. (new) The tablet of claim 99, wherein said at least one pH-adjusting substance is present in an amount which is sufficient to change the pH of a local environment of said medicament at a site of absorption in the mouth.

102. (new) The tablet of claim 98 wherein said medicament is capable of existing in ionized form and unionized form in the mouth.

103. (new) The tablet of claim 102, wherein the amount of said pH-adjusting substance is sufficient to favor said unionized form of said medicament.

104. (new) The tablet of claim 102, wherein the amount of said pH-adjusting substance is sufficient to favor said ionized form of said medicament.